

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for enabling a computer to self-start comprising:

selecting a predetermined time for self-start when the computer is on;

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adjusting an alarm setting stored in a memory of an RTC/NVRAM chip (Real-time Clock/Non-Volatile RAM memory chip) according to the predetermined time;

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enabling the System Control Interrupt (SCI) bit in a Southbridge chipset of the computer; wherein the Southbridge chipset responds to a matching signal sent from the RTC/NVRAM chip when the computer is off;

powering the computer off; and

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enabling the Southbridge chipset for providing electrical power with a power supply if a clock value of the RTC/NVRAM chip matches the alarm setting by:

 sending a power on signal to the power supply via a power supply connector on a motherboard of the computer;

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 powering voltages of pins of the power supply connector to appropriate levels;

 checking if the voltages in the pins of the power supply connector are stable;

 sending a power good signal from the power supply to a processor of the computer; and

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 starting the computer upon receiving the power good signal.

2. (cancelled)

3. (currently amended) The method of claim [[2]] 1 further comprising:
employing a BIOS to enable the SCI bit in the Southbridge chipset.
4. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
5 sending a matching signal from the RTC/NVRAM chip by changing the value of the
11th byte in the memory of the RTC/NVRAM chip;
5. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
activating the SCI pin of a Southbridge chipset in the computer to send a power on
10 signal in response to a match between the clock value of the RTC/NVRAM chip
and the alarm setting stored in the memory of the RTC/NVRAM chip.
6. (cancelled)
7. (original) The method in claim 1 wherein selecting the predetermined time further
15 comprises:
using an application of an operating system in the computer to select the
predetermined time.
8. (original) The method in claim 7 wherein the application of an operating system
20 employs a driver to relay the selected predetermined time to the BIOS.
9. (original) The method in claim 1 wherein the adjusting of the alarm setting further
comprises:
employing a BIOS to adjust the alarm setting in the memory of the RTC/NVRAM
25 chip.

Claims 10-16 (canceled)